Losses of clients by AI due to bilateral agreements.

1099. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during last five years, Government have signed a large number of bilateral agreements with over 11 foreign carriers permitting them not only to operate lucrative destination in India but also to increase routes and frequencies;

(b) whether as a result of this AI lost a large percentage of its traditional clientele; and

(c) what is Government strategy to rectify this?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) 25 bilateral Air Services Agreements have been initialled/signed by India with other countries from 1.1.91. The traffic rights exchanged under these Agreements are on the basis of reciprocity and equality of benefit to the designated airlines of both sides.

Proposal to Improve the Functioning of Thiruvananthapuram Doordarshan Centre

1100. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the functioning of Thiruvananthapuram Doordarshan Kendra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government received any proposal for improvement of Studio Camera from the said Kendra; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Modernisation/ augmentation of technical facilities at the existing Doordarshan Centres in the country is a continuous process. As a step in this direction, recently, a number of State-of-the-Art equipment have been provided to Doordarshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram to improve its functioning.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. With a view to replace the existing Studio cameras at Doordarshan Kendra (DDK), Thiruvananthapuram, a scheme is being proposed for inclusion as a part of 9th Plan proposals of Doordarshan.

Recovery of Wrongly Made Bonus Payments

1101. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions have been issued for recovery of bonus payment made wrongly to group B Central employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof with amount recovered so far;

(c) whether Government propose to take action against officials responsible for such wrong payments;

(d) whether instructions have been issued for recovery of bonus payment wrongly made to Assistant category employees with pay scale of Rs. 1640—2900 (RS) working in zonal Railways as well as in Ministry Office;

(e) if so, the details thereof with amount recovered so far.

(f) whether Government propose to take action against officials responsible for such wrong payment; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Orders were issued on 5th November, 1996 removing eligibility ceiling for grant of ad-hoc bonus to all Group C and D